Please amend Claim 5 as follows:

1.-4. (Cancelled)



- 5. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide or complement thereof, the polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide that consists essentially of a soluble polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a PA-binding fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, a PA-binding fragment of SEQ ID NO:6, a PA-binding fragment of SEQ ID NO:8, a PA-binding fragment 4 of SEQ ID NO:10, and a fusion protein comprising any of the foregoing, the polynucleotide being unable to encode a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8 and SEQ ID NO:10.
- 6. (Original) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 5, wherein the PA-binding fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 begins at any amino acid in the range from 27 to 43 and ends at any amino acid in the range from 221 to 321.
- 7. (Original) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 5 eomprising consisting essentially of SEQ ID NO:1 from position 104 to 1207 or the complement thereof.

8.-10. (Cancelled)

- 11. (Previously Amended) A vector comprising a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of a polynucleotide of claim 5 and a polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent or moderately stringent hybridization conditions to a polynucleotide of claim 5.
- 12. (Original) The vector of claim 11, further comprising a non-native expression control sequence operably linked to the polynucleotide.
 - 13. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector of claim 11.

14.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously amended) A method for producing an anthrax toxin receptor, the method including the step of:

transcribing a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide that consists essentially of a soluble anthrax toxin receptor operably linked to an upstream expression control sequence, the receptor being selected from the group consisting of a PA-binding fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, a PA-binding fragment of SEQ ID NO:6, a PA-binding fragment of SEQ ID NO:8, a PA-binding fragment of SEQ ID NO:10, and a fusion protein comprising any of the foregoing, to produce an mRNA; and

translating the mRNA to produce the anthrax toxin receptor.

20. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the polynucleotide is operably linked to the expression control sequence in an expression vector, and wherein the expression vector is delivered into a host cell, the expression control sequence being operable in the host cell.

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21. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 19, wherein at least one of the transcribing and translating steps are performed in vitro.